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Thursday, December 12 - Wednesday, December 18, 2013 Advertising/Newsdesk: 01235 511700 www.oxfordjournal.co.uk

YOU know it's nearly Christmas when you see the Coca-Cola Truck on your television screens.

But shoppers in Oxford on Monday got the exciting opportunity to see the truck for real.

Scores of people flocked to see the lorry on Broad Street to have their photo taken with the truck, as it continues on its UK tour until December 23, just two days before Christmas.

The iconic vehicles, now synonymous with the countdown to the Christmas holidays, were first seen on TV screens back in 1995.

An advert featuring three of the 18-wheel vehicles, each covered in more than 30,000 bulbs to create the visual effect of a never-ending fleet of trucks, was the start of the craze.

SURGE IN THEFTS PROMPTS ACTION

POLICE in Oxford have launched three separate operations for the Christmas period, with the aim of reducing the number of thefts and burglaries across the city.

By **Adam Flinn**
adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Operation Blitzen is being run by police to deal with shoplifting incidents in the weeks leading up to Christmas, while Operation Big Dipper is aiming to tackle thefts taking place at licensed premises.

It follows a 19 per cent increase in thefts from a person charges between April 1 and December 9 compared to the same period last year, while reported shoplifting incidents rose by 10 per cent.

At the same time, Operation Bells in also in force to deal with burglaries across the city, although there has already been a 20.8 per cent drop in incidents over the same time period.

Supt Christian Bunt, local policing area commander for Oxford, said: "Although no analysis has been done, the increase in thefts could be linked to the austerity measures.

"As times get harder, we see an increase in these types of crimes, so in response we have launched these operations.

"Our big message is to look after your property, as three quarters of thefts are likely avoidable. There is a trend of leaving bags on a table and phones are then stolen.

"There are opportunists out there, so make sure you are looking after your property."

Sergeant Joanne Hutchings added: "Footfall is higher in the city centre around Christmas, and people can get easily distracted while shopping or at Christmas parties.

"There has been a lot of planning, and while the operations started in late November, they were being planned in June and July.

"We have done lots of work around licensed premises to help them get the crime prevention message across, and help staff identify those who are putting their property at risk."

As part of the operations, police officers, plain clothes officers and PCSOs will be patrolling the city centre and other areas of Oxford.

Anyone who witnesses a crime is asked to contact 101.

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Know your limits, say council chiefs

CELEBRATIONS are common at this time of year, but county council chiefs are reminding festive revellers to know their limits during the Christmas and New Year period.

By **Jack Johnson**
jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

A campaign targeting everybody who will be celebrating at parties across Oxfordshire began last week with the intention of increasing people's knowledge and understanding of alcohol.

The county council's public health team also want to raise the understanding of drinking more than the government's recommended daily guidelines where men should not regularly exceed 3-4 units a day and women 2-3 units.

However, there is no safe level of drinking and staying within the guidelines can make a positive difference to people's health.

Cllr Hilary Hibbert Biles, the council's lead member for public health, said: "December can be a really busy month with Christmas parties, drinks and meals every weekend and sometimes throughout the week as well.

"It's very easy to find your diary full of occasions where the drink will be flowing which means keeping within the guideline number of units can difficult.

"Everyone wants to have a good time enjoying all the Christmas season has to offer and we aren't in the business of telling people they can't have fun.

"There are lots of ways to keep the alcohol in check and plenty of places to find out all the facts about drink so that you can enjoy yourself without putting yourself at risk."

To coincide with the campaign, the county council has issued some tips to help avoid accidental binge drinking.

It is recommended to download a unit calculator app to help you stick to the guidelines while eating carbs or protein will prevent alcohol from going to your head too quickly.

Other bits of advice issued include drinking once you are out rather than at home, having a break between beverages and cutting down by, for example, choosing a lower-strength lager.

Skaters hoping for a fairy tale show!

FAIRY Tales on Ice is back this year with what promises to be the best show yet.

Taking place this Saturday and Sunday at Oxford Ice Rink, international, national and local skating championships will put on performances to get everybody in the mood for Christmas.

The show is produced by Oxford Ice Rink and local skate coaches Jane de Lange, Sue Hands and Alison Morrell.

John Harris, general manager of the rink, said: "This year's show should be the best ever.

"In addition to some great international quality skaters, we have a hundred of our own skaters and even Marvin the Penguin taking part.

"The coaches, Ice Rink team, skaters and families have put a lot of work into making this show one of the premier Christmas events in the city, and I would encourage everyone to come to the show and get in the Christmas spirit."

Councillor Mike Rowley, board member for Leisure Services, added: "This should be a great event with some of Britain's biggest ice skating stars. It is an ideal way to get into the Christmas holiday mood."

Tickets are on sale now from Oxford Ice Rink and cost £9.50 for adults and £7.50 for under 16s. Performances are held twice a day at 3pm and 6pm.

• ***Skaters performing Oliver! at last year's event***

Police warning

TWO teenage boys shone a laser pen into the faces of cyclists, pedestrians and bus drivers in Queen Street on December 2.

A 17-year-old boy from Oxford has since been arrested in connection to the incident which happened between 2.30pm and 2.45pm. He has been bailed until January 14.

PC Ben Simmons, who is investigating the incident, said: "We are very keen to hear from anyone who was in this area last Monday afternoon.

"It was a busy time as the streets were full of Christmas shoppers and if any of the victims had been temporarily blinded by the pens, especially the bus drivers, there could have been a terrible accident.

"We would urge anyone who was in Queen Street at that time and saw what happened or who was actually a target for the laser pen to please get in touch as soon as possible."

If you have any information, contact PC Simmons via 101 or call Crimestoppers.

Student's body found in tent

POLICE are continuing to investigate the death of a 20-year-old student, who was found dead in a tent at Port Meadow on Sunday afternoon.

The body of Andrew Kirkman, who had been studying physics and philosophy at Balliol College, was discovered by a passer-by at 12.25pm in the tent, which presented a strong odour of chemicals.

At present the death is being treated as unexplained, but police are saying that there are no suspicious circumstances at this time.

Supt Steve Hockin said: "Early indications are that the chemical involved in the death of the man is hydrogen sulphide."

The area was cordoned off overnight while further investigations were made, with Port Meadow being completely reopened on Monday.

Supt Christian Bunt said: "These types of incidents are fairly uncommon and tricky to deal with. I can't remember a similar incident in the past, certainly not during my tenure over the last 12 months."

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Oxford pays its respects to freedom fighter Mandela

'The world has lost one of its noblest figures'

- 1918 Born in Mvezo, South Africa
- 1944 Joined the African National Congress (ANC)
- 1952 Qualified as a lawyer and set up South Africa's first black law firm
- 1956 Arrested and charged with treason along with 155 others
- 1960 Formed a military wing of the ANC after 69 protestors were killed by police in Sharpeville and the government banned the ANC
- 1962 Arrested and tried for leaving the country illegally
- 1963 Charged with sabotage while in prison
- 1964 Sentenced to life with seven others and jailed on Robben Island
- 1990 President Frederik Willem de Klerk lifted the ban on the ANC and Mr Mandela was freed after 27 years in prison
- 1991 Elected ANC president
- 1993 Awarded the Nobel Peace Prize alongside President FW de Klerk for efforts to bring stability to South Africa
- 1994 Became president of South Africa
- 1997 Stepped down as ANC president
- 2004 Announced his retirement from public life
- 2008 Attended a concert in Hyde Park, London, to mark his 90th birthday
- 2010 Appeared at the closing ceremony of the 2010 World Cup in South Africa
- 2011 Admitted to hospital with a respiratory infection
- 2013 After suffering repeated infections he died at his home on December 5

• *Nelson Mandela (Picture by Rob Judges Photography / Oxford University images)*

TRIBUTES have been pouring in from across the city for former South African president Nelson Mandela.

Mr Mandela, who died last Thursday at the age of 95, visited the city on two occasions and, as he was across the world, thought of dearly by the people of Oxford.

His death was announced on South African national TV by President Jacob Zuma, who said Mr Mandela was at peace.

The Bishop of Oxford, the Rt Revd John Pritchard, led the tributes saying "the world has lost one of its noblest figures".

"His courage, dignity and unswerving loyalty to truth made his long walk to freedom an inspiration for untold millions of people, especially those who continue to live under tyranny," Revd Pritchard continued.

"His years of imprisonment only strengthened his moral and spiritual resources.

"May he rest in peace, and rise in glory."

By **Jack Johnson**
jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Mr Mandela, also known as Madiba, his tribal name, visited the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies in 1997 and Oxford University's Saïd Business School in 2002. He received an honorary degree from Oxford University and was given the freedom of the city in 1997.

Oxford University's vice-chancellor Professor Andrew Hamilton, said: "Nelson Mandela was an inspiration wherever he went and we remember with affection and gratitude his association with this University.

"We were honoured to welcome him to Oxford to open the lecture theatre at the Saïd Business School that bears his name, and continue to take pride in the work of the Mandela Rhodes Scholarships programme for African students.

"Like people all over the world we mourn the passing of an extraordinary man, whose life and example has the power to teach us all."

Nicola Blackwood, MP for Oxford West and Abingdon, who was born in South Africa, said: "The fact that we are all struggling to put into words the transformational impact of Mandela's life is a fitting tribute.

"He defied the rules: met injustice with forgiveness, conflict with reconciliation and division with unifying leadership.

"It is up to all of us now to honour his life's work by continuing to fight oppression and human rights abuses wherever we find them."

Prime Minister and Witney MP David Cameron also paid tribute to Mr Mandela saying "a great light has gone out in the world".

He added: "Nelson Mandela was a towering figure in our time; a legend in life and now in death - a true global hero.

"Across the country he loved, they will be mourning a man who was the embodiment of grace. Meeting him was one of the great honours of my life."

Dr Hojjat Ramzy, representative of the Muslim Community of Oxford, said: "He was a man who put aside his own hardships and sacrificed every ounce of his energy to ensure a better world for his people, the people of South Africa and the people of the world.

"He was a teacher, who taught the world the true meaning of tolerance and brotherhood, the same message that runs deep in the Holy Qur'an and Muslim veins. He may have passed, but his legacy remains forever."

An official memorial service was held in Johannesburg on Tuesday while Mr Mandela's state funeral will be held in the village of Qunu this Sunday.

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City council's supermarket levy welcomed

LOCAL Works, a coalition of over 100 national charities and civic groups, has welcomed Oxford City Council's pledge to push for the power to put a levy on large supermarkets.

It means that the city council is now joining other local authorities across the country in making the proposal to government.

The levy would be up to 8.5 per cent of a supermarket's current business rates who pay over £500,000 a year – similar to a law passed in Northern Ireland and Scotland in early 2012.

Cllr Bob Price, leader of the city council, said: "For local economies to thrive, a level playing field is needed, yet in retail this is far from the reality. This levy on large supermarkets would ensure more of their huge revenues re-circulate in the economy of the city and thus help local shops and trade thrive."

Local Works national co-ordinator Steve Shaw added: "We congratulate them for pledging to help communities and the local economy.

"Ninety-five per cent of the money spent in a large supermarket leaves the local area forever and this levy will ensure more of that money continues to help the local area."

Oxford professor 'plans out Richard III reburial'

AN ACADEMIC from Oxford University has put together an authentic order of service for the planned reburial of Richard III.

By **Jack Johnson**
jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Dr Alexandra Buckle, of St Anne's and St Hilda's colleges, was able to do this after finding the only known document explaining how a medieval reburial would have been carried out.

She has even recreated what she believes to be the correct music for the event.

The manuscript, which is a late 17th century copy of a 15th century document, was found in the British Library and Dr Buckle has since translated it into English from Latin.

She discovered the document during her research into Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, for her doctorate.

Dr Buckle describes the service as 'elaborate' while it contains two new prayers known only to survive in the document.

She said: "The new prayers are an exciting find as they draw on the famous "dry bones" passage from the Bible and the transferral of Joseph's bones from Egypt to Canaan.

"Both prayers focus on bones and were therefore wholly appropriate for a reburial service."

Dr Buckle is on the committee for Richard III's planned reburial at Leicester Cathedral next year.

She added that Richard III attended two reburials while on the throne - his father Richard, Duke of York, and his ancestor Henry VI.

"He honoured a long tradition of kings reburying kings and nobles reburying nobles, and this suggests he would have liked to have been honoured in a similar way today," she said.

"I believe that I have put together a service which very closely resembles the way Richard would have reburied his father and, presumably, given the nature of his own undignified burial, reflects the sort of reburial he would have wanted for himself."

The service is said to require the bones to be sprinkled, censed, covered and blessed before reburial.

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Being in a choir 'good for well-being' - study

• *Singing in a choir is good for psychological well-being, according to a new study*

AN OXFORD Brookes graduate has concluded that singing in a choir may be good for psychological well-being, in research shown at a conference last Thursday.

Nick Stewart, who has a MSc in psychology, was one of two students who presented at the annual conference of the British Psychological Society's Division of Clinical Psychology (DCP) in York.

He asked 375 people who sang in choirs, sang alone or were members of a sports team about their experiences with these activities as part of an online study.

All three yielded high levels of well-being, but the figures were higher for choir singers in comparison to those who sang alone.

Nick said: "Research has already suggested that joining a choir could be a cost-effective way to improve people's well-being.

"Yet we know surprisingly little about how the well-being effects of choral singing are brought about.

"These findings suggest that the experience of using your voice to make music may be enhanced when you feel part of a cohesive social group."

Dr Adam Lonsdale, who supervised Nick's project, said: "I am pleased that Nick's work has been recognised at the DCP annual conference and the wiser interest his research has received."

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Christmas song

MENTAL health charity Mind are staging their Christmas Concert on Saturday evening, to raise money to help and support people with emotional issues in Oxfordshire.

The concert and sing-in will feature local professional and amateur singers for an evening of carols, festive tunes and other popular songs, taking place at the Parish Church of St Michael at the North Gate.

It starts at 7pm, and costs £5 to get in.

For information, email Nicky Clargo on nicky.clargo@oxfordshire-mind.org.uk.

Letters from Santa

FAMILIES can raise money for Diabetes UK during the run up to Christmas by taking part in the charity's Letters from Santa appeal.

This arranges for their children to receive a personalised letter from Santa.

The letter, which also includes an activity booklet, certificate of good behaviour, photo and text message, costs £4.99, £2 of which goes to Diabetes UK.

Farm barn theft

CASH and a green Landrover Defender were stolen from a farm barn in Tilbury Lane, Botley.

The offenders broke in between 5pm on December 4 and 6am on December 5.

If you have seen any suspicious looking people or vehicles in the area with the partial registration OY04 call the police on 101.

Fast broadband funding boost for businesses

BUSINESSES in Oxford are set to receive a funding boost to enable them to take advantage of ultra-fast broadband in the city, in a scheme announced by the city council.

By **Adam Flinn**

adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Small and medium-sized businesses will be able to apply for a voucher enabling them to get funding, with money coming from central government.

It will be launched in Oxford in early 2014, and follows on from the Super Connected Cities announcement from earlier this year where Oxford City Council was awarded £3.1million from the Culture, Media and Sport department.

Cllr Bob Price, leader of Oxford City Council, said: "The voucher scheme is designed to provide support for small and medium-sized businesses to set up an ultra-fast broadband connection that will develop their potential.

"The council's scheme will be open from early in the new year.

"It is aimed at businesses that can use ultra-fast connections to expand and grow their businesses across the UK, Europe and the rest of the world."

Communications minister Ed Vaizey said: "The broadband market is moving at an incredible place.

"Today, businesses expect and demand faster and faster broadband to compete in the global race.

"Connection vouchers will be an important tool for cities in helping to address that demand, and government has now allocated up to £100m to provide a digital boost to super connected cities like Oxford."

The scheme will allow businesses to apply for grants of up to £3,000 each, which would be used to cover the costs of installing faster and better broadband.

It is part of the government's plan to deliver fast broadband, with funding coming from the £150m Super Connected Cities programme.

Businesses interested in registering for one of the vouchers should go to www.connection-vouchers.co.uk.

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Woman, 24, racially attacked in city centre

A 24-YEAR-OLD woman became the victim of a racially aggravated assault in Oxford while she was waiting for a taxi.

The victim was waiting with her friend in St Aldates, outside Santander bank, between 3.10am and 3.25am on November 30 where they became embroiled in an argument with a group of three women.

One of the group then racially abused the victim, before punching her in the face, causing her to fall to the floor.

The offender, who is white, aged between 20 and 25-years-old, of large build, with blonde dark hair, was restrained by her friends, and a man who was in the area at the time.

The offender's friends were also white, both with long blonde hair, between 20 and 25-years-old, and of slim builds. They were wearing short skirts.

The victim sustained a broken nose and was treated at Oxford's John Radcliffe Hospital. If you have any information please contact PC Christopher Cassidy on 101 or Crimestoppers.

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Drink-driving 'is not worth the risk'- cops

THAMES Valley Police's Christmas drink-drive campaign 'Is It Worth The Risk?' has seen a 25 per cent increase in the number of those arrested in the region compared to last year, it has been announced.

The figures are taken from the first nine days of December, and so far 21 people have been arrested in Oxfordshire, with a total of 84 in the Thames Valley.

Of those arrested, the oldest was a 75-year-old woman in Bicester, while the youngest was an 18-year-old woman in Henley.

The campaign is a joint initiative between Thames Valley and Hampshire police forces, and has been running since the start of the month.

Chief inspector Henry Parsons, of the forces' Joint Operations Unit, said: "Drinking and driving wrecks lives, most obviously the hundreds of victims and their loved ones who are killed each year.

"But it also changes the lives of the people who are selfish or stupid enough to drive when they are not fit to do so.

"If you choose to drink and drive, and it is a choice, you face a driving ban, up to £5,000 in fines and a criminal record. There is no excuse for drink driving and our message is simple; don't do it."

Taking Christmas adverts to the Max

By **Jack Johnson**

jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

• *Max Webb and (inset) the 11-year-old appearing in the advert*

CHRISTMAS is fast approaching and the festive adverts are commonplace on our television screens.

People often have their favourites and voice opinions on which advert is the best, but for 11-year-old Max Webb from Headington there is only one winner.

Max, who attends Cheney School in Oxford, appears in KFC's festive advert called 'Unite This Xmas'.

He appears with four other children who have thrown a snowball that smashes a window but find themselves forgiven because it is Christmas.

The TV advert is a tongue-in-cheek version of the traditionally sentimental Christmas adverts and features a ballad sung by various characters.

They all gather round the Christmas dinner table to tuck into buckets of KFC while they sing lyrics such as "Eleven months a year, you drive me mad, this year you don't seem so bad."

Max, who wants to be a film star when he is older, had two auditions before getting the role.

He said: "When I found out I was happy and excited as well.

"I was amazed when I saw myself on TV and it was on the screen right in front of me. It made me really happy."

The advert took three days to film and Max added: "I enjoyed all the filming.

"It was fun and hard work at the same time, I got to meet lots of people, everyone was really nice.

"I had a really good time and I feel lucky to have been on TV."

Max's mum Sue said: "The children the KFC casting team put together were chosen so well, they were all very similar and it was like they had always known each other.

"We are still in touch with them now, which is really nice."

Concern grows over missing teen Sammy

• *Missing teen, Sammy McAllister*

POLICE are currently appealing for the public's help to find a missing teenager.

Fifteen-year-old Sammy McAllister has been missing from Birmingham since November 18.

However, he is believed to be in the Oxford area as he has family and friends in the city.

He is described as 5ft 6ins with dark hair, has facial hair and is of a medium build.

Officers involved in the search are becoming increasingly concerned about the teenager's health and welfare and would be grateful for any news that could help them locate him.

If you have any information about Sammy's whereabouts please contact the Thames Valley Police Enquiry Centre on 101.

Police would also like to add that Sammy is not in any trouble and officers would just like to be aware of his whereabouts and to know he is safe.

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Entertainment

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If you would like your event considered for publication, please contact **Adam Flinn** at adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk or telephone 01235 516933

Let's keep harping on!

CLASSICAL music quartet 4 Girls 4 Harps come to Didcot Cornerstone next Thursday, as part of their Christmas tour following the release of their latest album earlier this month.

By **Adam Flinn**

adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Made up of Harriet Adie, Eleanor Turner, Elizabeth Scorah and Keziah Thomas, the group will be playing music from the new album '4 Girls 4 Harps At Christmas' among their setlist.

"We've been together since 2000, so a really long time now, with a slightly different membership over the years," said founding member Harriet.

"Myself and Eleanor met aged 14 and we were both students at the Royal College of Music Junior Department, and we started doing harp music there.

"Keziah joined in 2001, and Elizabeth joined in January this year, so she's the newest member by quite a long way, but has so far slotted in really well."

The new album comes as the girls have wanted to record a Christmas album for a number of years, particularly as they believe the harp is one of the instruments most associated with the festive period.

They have collaborated with a number of composers for the album, including soprano Helen Winter, who features on three carols.

All four girls are recognised as some of the best harp players in Europe, and Harriet in particular has been playing since she was a child.

She said: "It's one of those things, because I played from such an early age, I don't actually remember what made me want to take it up.

"I think it was because I used to listen to a lot of ballet music as a child, as there's lots of harp in that music.

"It was just hearing the sound of the harp in that way that made me want to play it as an instrument."

Next week's show starts at 7.30pm, and tickets cost £14.50. For booking details and more information, go to www.cornerstone-arts.org or phone 01235 515144.

• 4 Girls 4 Harps make their first ever visit to Didcot next Thursday (Picture courtesy of Harleymoon Kemp)

Russell Brand

COMEDIAN Russell Brand is bringing his new show the 'Messiah Complex' to the New Theatre tomorrow.

Russell is known for his controversial comedy, and this show certainly isn't for the easily offended as he discusses religion, sex and politics.

Tickets cost £32.40 for a 7.30pm start. For more details, go to www.newtheatreoxford.co.uk or call 0844 871 3020.

Happy Mondays

ALTERNATIVE rock band Happy Mondays are celebrating the 25th anniversary of their album 'Bummed' at the O2 Academy tomorrow evening.

Shaun Ryder and co bring back the popular album which was first released in 1988 with it sounding as dangerously hedonistic as it did 25 years ago.

Doors open at 7pm while tickets cost £28.

Phoenix Piano

THE Phoenix Piano Trio will be playing pieces by Haydn, Korngold and Brahms at St. John the Evangelist Church on Sunday evening (7.30pm).

Jonathan Stone (violin), Marie Mcleod (cello) and Sholto Kynoch (piano) make up the trio. Tickets are £15 and are available from the Oxford Playhouse on 01865 305305.

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Oxford's Hidden Spires

HIDDEN Spire, a collaboration between professional artists and homeless people to produce a unique theatre performance, comes to The Old Fire Station from today.

By **Adam Flinn**

adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Since September, homeless people from charity Crisis, who share a building with The Old Fire Station, have been attending workshops and classes on acting, writing and set design as part of the project.

The idea for Hidden Spire came from Jeremy Spafford, who is director of arts at The Old Fire Station.

He said: "We've got 10 professional artists of different disciplines who have been working over the last three months with homeless people who come into the Crisis Centre.

"The Crisis Skylight members have devised this show, which contains music, poetry, movement and dialogue, and has a very clear narrative and structure.

"The story is based in a clock shop, with the idea that it's where people go to get their clocks and watches mended, although of course nobody gets them mended anymore, they just buy new ones.

"So it's an exploration of how you deal with luck, how you deal with chance, and how you deal with risk."

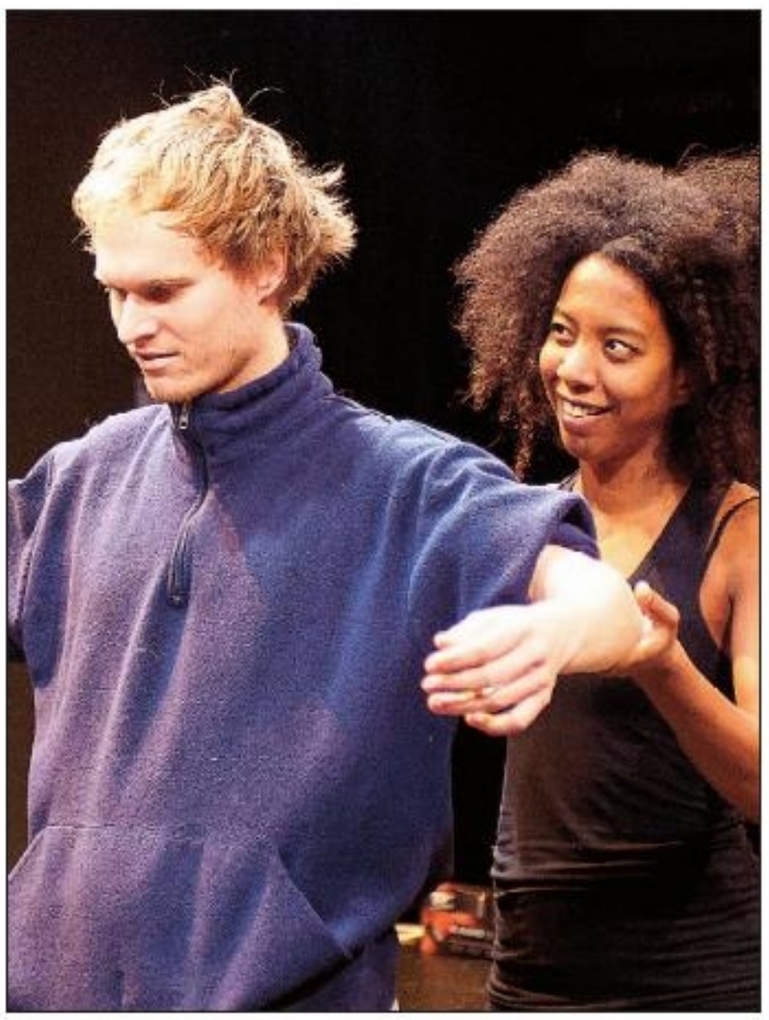
The project began last year, and is the biggest collaboration between the two organisations since The Old Fire Station reopened in 2011.

Jeremy added: "You have this intriguing mix of the honesty and integrity of amateur performers who bring an enormous amount with them to the stage, and professionals who bring all the training and technique you'd expect.

"We're very proud of it - we wouldn't be promoting it and charging for tickets if we didn't think it was a seriously good night out.

"I think that people will also be intrigued by the process that is behind the show as well as the show itself."

Hidden Spire is running from today until Saturday, and tickets cost £12.



• Professional artists and homeless people are working together for Hidden Spire

Xmas brass with cushions

THIS Sunday the Jacqueline du Pre Music Building is hosting a cushion concert to help introduce children and their families to different instruments.

The concert lasts 45 minutes and this week's theme is Christmas Brass.

Entry is £5 (babies under a year old go free) and make sure to bring a cushion. Book online or call 01865 812150.

Get back into the Darkness

AFTER supporting Lady Gaga and releasing their new album 'Hot Cakes' last year, The Darkness are back in Oxford and performing at the O2 Academy tonight.

The glam rock quartet are will be performing songs from their new album as well as hits such as 'I Believe In A Thing Called Love' and 'Christmas Time' (Don't Let The Bells End). Doors open at 7pm and tickets cost £25. Call 0844 477 2000.

Ukulele club at Kenton Theatre

THE International Ukulele Club of Sonning Common (IUCSC) are at the Kenton Theatre in Henley this evening.

The IUCSC was the first club to be set up by former singer Sam Brown who has performed with Jools Holland.

For more information call 01491 575698.

Orchestral treat at the Abbey

THE Orchestra of St John's is joined by flute duo James and Jeanne Galway at Dorchester Abbey this Sunday.

John Lubbock will conduct with Louise Wayman (soprano) and Johnny Herford (baritone).

Tickets cost £37.50 from the Oxboffice on 0845 680 1926.

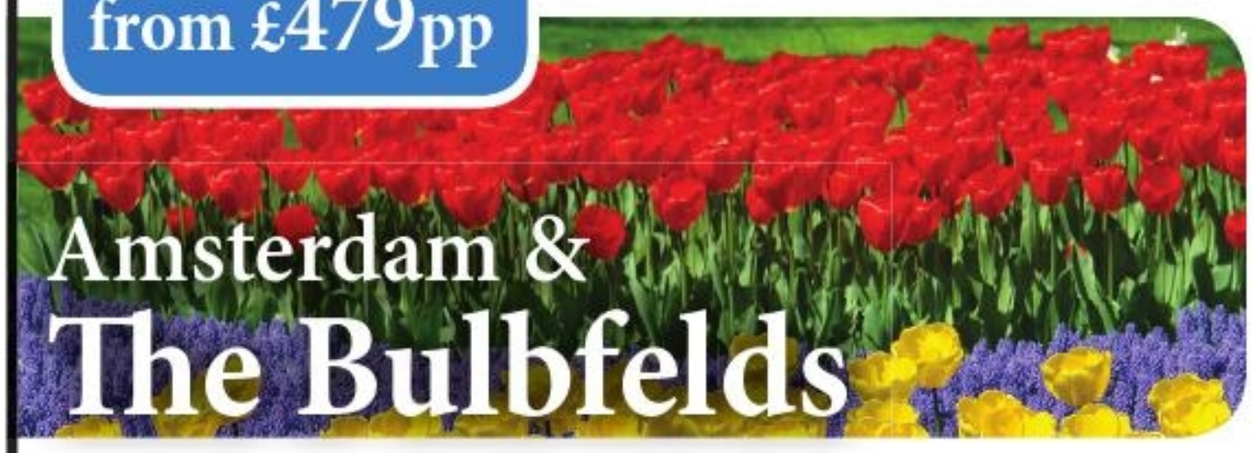
Classic rock night at Mill

THE Mill Arts Centre is host to a collection of some of the finest rock songs from the 60s and 70s tomorrow night.

'All Right Now' features songs by the Rolling Stones, The Who, Thin Lizzy and many more.

Tickets cost £13 (£11 for concessions) with the show starting at 8pm. Call 01295 297002.

3 days by Air from £479pp



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For more information or to book call:

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Ssafa.org.uk/commitment

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Lunch offer is a choice of 2 mezes from 30 varieties with pitta bread for only £4.00 p/p starting from 1st of Jan

Free Bottle of wine for every table of 4 + when ordering a 3-course meal from a' la cart menu.
Offer ends 31st December (Not in conjunction with any other offer.)

Christmas 3 course menu from £ 9.95 p/p

NEW YEAR'S EVE BUFFET BONANZA

Eat as much you like, Vegetarian and non-vegetarian. With free glass of Bubbly at midnight and dance into the New Year. £18 p/p

Book early to avoid disappointment.

Open Christmas Day for set Menu of 5 course meal

For more details please Call 01865 761 106
or Email: manager@bar-meze.co.uk
www.bar-meze.co.uk

Competitions

To enter this competition

Just send your answer along with your name, address and telephone number to **competitions@oxfordjournal.co.uk**

Or on a postcard to Competitions, Oxford Journal, Newspaper House, 4A Hawksworth, Didcot, Oxfordshire OX11 7HR

WIN an OMRON M6 Comfort Premium Blood Pressure Monitor

WITH 1 in 3 adults having high blood pressure, also known as hypertension, maintaining a healthy lifestyle and blood pressure is important for everyone as it limits your chances of developing heart disease, stroke, and other serious conditions.

Eating plenty of fruit and vegetables, limiting your intake of salt, stopping smoking and exercising regularly are all factors in keeping a normal blood pressure.

Monitoring your health regularly and accurately can be difficult, but OMRON is at hand to help! Thanks to their OMRON M6 Comfort, an advanced upper arm blood pressure home monitor, it doesn't have to mean lots of trips to your GP – you can take your own blood pressure readingin the comfort of your own home! At £102.25 RRP it is a worthwhile investment and since it comes with a wide range cuff of 22-42cm it will cover the whole family.

Closing date:

Friday, December 27

Comfort and accuracy are key features of the M6 Comfort fully automatic upper arm monitor.

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14 Dec 2013
Cornerstone, Didcot

CK GOSPEL CHOIR

A 12 piece group who have supported the likes of Beverley Knight, Leona Lewis and Alfie Bow. They sing festive tunes and classic favourites. Plus have a go yourself in the workshop with some of the musicians before the show.
www.cornerstone-arts.org

14 Dec 2013, 5:55pm
Vue Bicester, Cineworld Didcot, The Regal, Henley, Phoenix Picturehouse Oxford, Cineworld Witney

VERDI: FALSTAFF

The new production by Robert Carsen is set in the English countryside of the mid-20th century.

19 Dec 2013
Cornerstone, Didcot

4 GIRLS 4 HARPS

A range of beautiful pieces in the soft glow of candlelight. Relax and be carried away by their magical sound, and even join in singing with some of your favourite carols.
www.cornerstone-arts.org

20 Dec 2013
Cornerstone, Didcot

NORMA WATERSON AND ELIZA CARTHY

perform with their 6 piece band. Two of the country's finest exponents of traditional song, they will perform traditional classics and some unexpected gems
www.cornerstone-arts.org

21 Dec 2013, 2pm
Wantage Civic Hall

ALADDIN PANTOMIME

"Boo and hiss along with this fabulous pantomime especially for all little (and not-so-little) Genie-uses in this spectacular journey across time and space to visit the magical city of Old Peking. Packed with comedy, excitement and adventure, the children will love to cheer their hero Aladdin and boo the evil Abanazar. They will roar with laughter at the antics of Wishee Washee and Widow Twanky and gasp withamazement when the Genie appears, as if by magic! The shows lasts approximately two hours. Tickets£8.50 per person or £30 for a party of four."
www.wantagecivichall.co.uk 01235 515144

22 Dec 2013
Cornerstone, Didcot

CHRIS NEWMAN AND MAIRE NI CHATHASAIGH

breathtaking blend of traditional Irish music, swing jazz and blue grass, alongside festive favourites.
www.cornerstone-arts.org

27 Dec 2013 - 30 Dec 2013
Waterperry Gardens, Nr Wheatley

CHRISTMAS WEEK AT WATERPERRY GARDENS

Experience Waterperry Gardens as it has never been seen before as the estate opens during the festive period. Capture theamazing vision as the frosts adorn the gardens and enjoy a winter stroll along the Riverside walk. Warm up with a tasty treat from Miss H's in the Teashop or just have a browse around the Gift Barn, Gallery, Plant Centre and Museum.
www.waterperrygardens.co.uk 01844 339226

30 Dec 2013, 8:30pm
the Lamb, Mill St, Wantage

DAVE MOORWOOD'S RASCALS OF RHYTHM

""Betwixmas Jazz"" an evening of lost gems from the song writers of the 20s & 30s presented in the Rascal's unique and swinging jazz style - no guests - just 5 of Oxfordshires best jazz musicians No entry charge - please support the raffle the proceeds from which enables us to invite star guests from all over the country.
Phone 01235 766768 if you wish to eat to book a table or just drop in for a glass of something

10 Jan 2014, 8pm
Wallingford Town Hall

TWHAS WILL BE BY LIZ WOOLLEY

"'Children and war: Children's experiences of WW2 in Oxfordshire'. This talk looks at how the lives of Oxfordshire children – both those born in the county and those evacuated here – were affected by World War II. Oxfordshire escaped major bombing during World War II but the county's inhabitants were, none-the-less, heavily affected by the War. Preparations for possible attack and invasion altered the familiar landscape and everyday life in towns and villages was disrupted. Thousands of evacuees found refuge here and became part of residents' homes and schools. Visitors (£3) are most welcome."
www.twhas.org.uk

10 Jan 2014, 8pm
Wallingford Town Hall

TALK: 'CHILDREN AND WAR: CHILDREN'S EXPERIENCES OF WW2 IN OXFORDSHIRE'

This talk looks at how the lives of Oxfordshire children – both those born in the county and those evacuated here – were affected by World War II. Oxfordshire escaped major bombing during World War II but the county's inhabitants were, none-the-less, heavily affected by the War. Preparations for possible attack and invasion altered the familiar landscape and everyday life in towns and villages was disrupted. Thousands of evacuees found refuge here and became part of residents' homes and schools. Visitors (£3) are most welcome.
www.twhas.org.uk

11 Jan 2014, 10am - 12pm
University Parks, Oxford, OX1 3PL

TRY ORIENTEERING AT UNIVERSITY PARKS, OXFORD!

This is an exciting introduction to orienteering, organised by Thames Valley Orienteering Club, and is aimed at newcomers, families and runners of all ages and abilities. There will be longer courses for runners as well as shorter courses for families and children. You can run, jog or walk at your own pace. If you haven't tried orienteering before, we'll help you get started. Just don't forget your sense of adventure! You'll receive a special orienteering map showing your chosen course which will consist of a series of control points. The challenge is choosing your route between each one. At each point in the park, you'll find a marker flag and an electronic unit to register your progress around the course, using the small electronic chip we will lend you. Come along any time between 10am and 11.30am and give it a go. Just wear what you would for a run or walk. For more info visit our website at www.tvoc.org.uk, see our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/tvoclub or email us: publicity@tvoc.org.uk"
www.tvoc.org.uk/saturdayseries

12 Jan 2014, 3pm
Henley Town Hall

ALLEN DIGITAL THEATRE ORGAN - PHIL KELSALL

£7 concessions £6.50
www.henleyorgantrust.org.uk

18 Jan 2014, 8pm - 10pm
Jacqueline du Pré Music Building

NICK VAN BLOSS (PIANO)

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www.st-hildas.ox.ac.uk/jdp 01865 286660

25 Jan 2014, 8:20pm - 11pm
The Wheatsheaf High St Oxford

GAPPY TOOTH INDUSTRIES

20.45 Gemma Moss 21.30 Barry & The Beachcombers 22.15 Molotiv Sexbomb £4.50 on the door, cheaper at www.wegottickets.com/event/250112"
www.gappytooth.com

31 Jan 2014, 8pm - 10pm
Jacqueline du Pré Music Building

BERNARD D'ASCOLI (PIANO)

Bernard d'Ascoli offers a delightful programme of piano works.
www.st-hildas.ox.ac.uk/jdp 01865 286660

1 Feb 2014, 7:29pm - 11pm
Jacqueline du Pré Music Building

MASH MARATHON

The annual M@SH Marathon returns, bringing its unique brand of innovative music-making to the JdP.
www.st-hildas.ox.ac.uk/jdp 01865 286660

2 Feb 2014, 3pm
Henley Town Hall

ALLEN DIGITAL THEATRE ORGAN - JEAN MARTYN

£7 concessions £6.50
www.henleyorgantrust.org.uk

7 Feb 2014 - 9 Feb 2014, 11am - 5pm
Oxford Town Hall

OXFORD INTERNATIONAL ART FAIR

"The Oxford International Art Fair 7-9 February 2014, at the Oxford Town Hall. With over 150 exhibitors from all over the world, that are specially coming over to Oxford for this wonderful 3-day Art Fair. Giving Art Collectors and Art Enthusiast a once in a lifetime opportunity to buy directly from the artist that has travelled all the way to Oxford, making it a unique experience for both visitors and exhibitor, at the beautiful Oxford Town Hall, a jewel at the heart of the historic city of Oxford. You can look forward to a varied and colourful art fair. The selection is based on photographs and illustrations, paintings, to sculptures. All artworks are available for purchase at an affordable price. Fri 7th Feb: 18.00-21.00 Vernissage Sat 8th Feb: 11.00-17.00 Free Entry Sun 9th Feb: 11.00-15.00 Free Entry
www.oxfordinternationalartfair.com OXFORD TOWN HALL St Aldate's, Oxford, OX1 1BX"
www.oxfordinternationalartfair.com

13 Feb 2014, 7pm - 8:30pm
Jacqueline du Pré Music Building

ROBIN MICHAEL (CELLO) & DANIEL TONG (PIANO)

Michael & Tong perform Brahms cello sonatas
www.st-hildas.ox.ac.uk/jdp 01865 286660

19 Feb 2014 - 20 Feb 2014
Cornerstone, Didcot

OMID DJALILI LIVE

01235 515 144

28 Feb 2014, 8pm - 8pm
Jacqueline du Pré Music Building

MAHAN ESFAHANI (HARPSICHORD)

Spanning four centuries, this evening's programme by Esfahani covers the gamut of the harpsichord repertoire.
www.st-hildas.ox.ac.uk/jdp 01865 286660

Guardian Homes

Thursday, December 12 - Wednesday, December 18, 2013 www.oxfordshireguardian.co.uk *This paper is* **FREE**

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A modern end of terrace three bedroom family home offering immaculately well-presented accommodation over two floors. A unique feature of this property is a larger than average enclosed garden to the rear in addition to driveway parking and a single garage. EPC: C

Guide Price £220,000 **01367 240356**

Faringdon

Purpose built retirement apartment overlooking communal gardens. The property offers a good size double bedroom, modern bathroom, sitting/dining room and modern fitted kitchen. Resident warden and communal parking. Age restriction 60 years and over. Incentives available. EPC: B

Asking Price Of £99,000 **01367 240356**

Faringdon

A tidy ground floor retirement apartment located in the heart of the town with two bedrooms. The property has a modern white bathroom suite and a fitted kitchen. Communal parking and pretty communal gardens. Visiting warden and emergency call system. EPC D

Asking Price Of £120,000 **01367 240356**

Faringdon

A fantastic modern ground floor apartment situated towards the outskirts of this historic market town with offer road parking, a large living room / kitchen, double bedroom and bathroom. Offering well presented accommodation - viewing is highly recommended. EPC: B

Offers In Excess Of £120,000 **01367 240356**

Wantage

Built in the 1930's this charming semi detached home offers potential for extension subject to consents. The plot measures c 135ft in length. Two reception rooms, kitchen, bathroom, three bedrooms. Single garage and driveway parking. EPC: E

Guide Price £240,000 **01367 240356**

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email: faringdon@perrybishop.co.uk

Faringdon

Offering significant potential being in need of some modernisation. Three bedroom semi-detached family home located close to town and its amenities. With well-proportioned accommodation, a good-sized garden, driveway parking and larger than average detached garage. EPC: D

Offers In Excess Of £200,000 **01367 240356**

Stanford in the Vale

A fabulous five bedroom home situated in a small cul-de-sac of similar properties. Modern extensively refitted family kitchen/breakfast room with appliances, three reception rooms and a large conservatory. Master bedroom with en-suite, double garage and sunny gardens. EPC: C

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Faringdon

Characterful and well presented three storey property located within the heart of Faringdon town centre. Kitchen/dining room with separate sitting room. Three double bedrooms, the master being particularly impressive. This property is for sale end of chain. EPC: E

Guide Price £235,000 **01367 240356**

Longcot

A three bedroom semi-detached cottage, with two generously proportioned reception rooms. Situated on the outskirts of the village, with views over open countryside towards the White Horse Hill, this characterful property is offered for sale with no onward chain. EPC: C

£250,000 **01367 240356**

Faringdon

A three bedroom link-detached home in a popular residential area within walking distance of the town centre, yet close to the Folly Tower and with lovely views. Garage and driveway parking. In need of some updating. EPC: D

£250,000 **01367 240356**

Stanford in the Vale

An individual detached family home situated in a non estate location towards the end of a quiet lane. Four bedrooms, two bath/shower rooms, two large reception rooms, conservatory, and a large work from home office. EPC: D

Price Range £550,000 - £565,000 **01367 240356**

Stanford in the Vale

A modern end-of-terrace home situated in a popular area on the outskirts of the village offering immaculately presented accommodation including two reception rooms, a kitchen/dining room and en suite to master bedroom in addition to parking and a garage. EPC: C

Asking Price Of £250,000 **01367 240356**

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Guide Price £125,000 **01367 240356**

Faringdon

A four bedroom detached home within a popular development on the edge oftown. Three reception rooms, refitted kitchen/ breakfast room, utility, conservatory, master bedroom with en suite and double garage. Double glazed and gas heating. EPC: D

Asking Price Of £390,000 **01367 240356**

Faringdon

A three storey grade II listed town cottage located in the heart of this historic market town. The property offers two double bedrooms, large refitted bathroom, sitting room, kitchen and a cellar. A pretty cottage garden is the perfect place to unwind at the end of the day. EPC: D

Asking Price Of £200,000 **01367 240356**

Faringdon

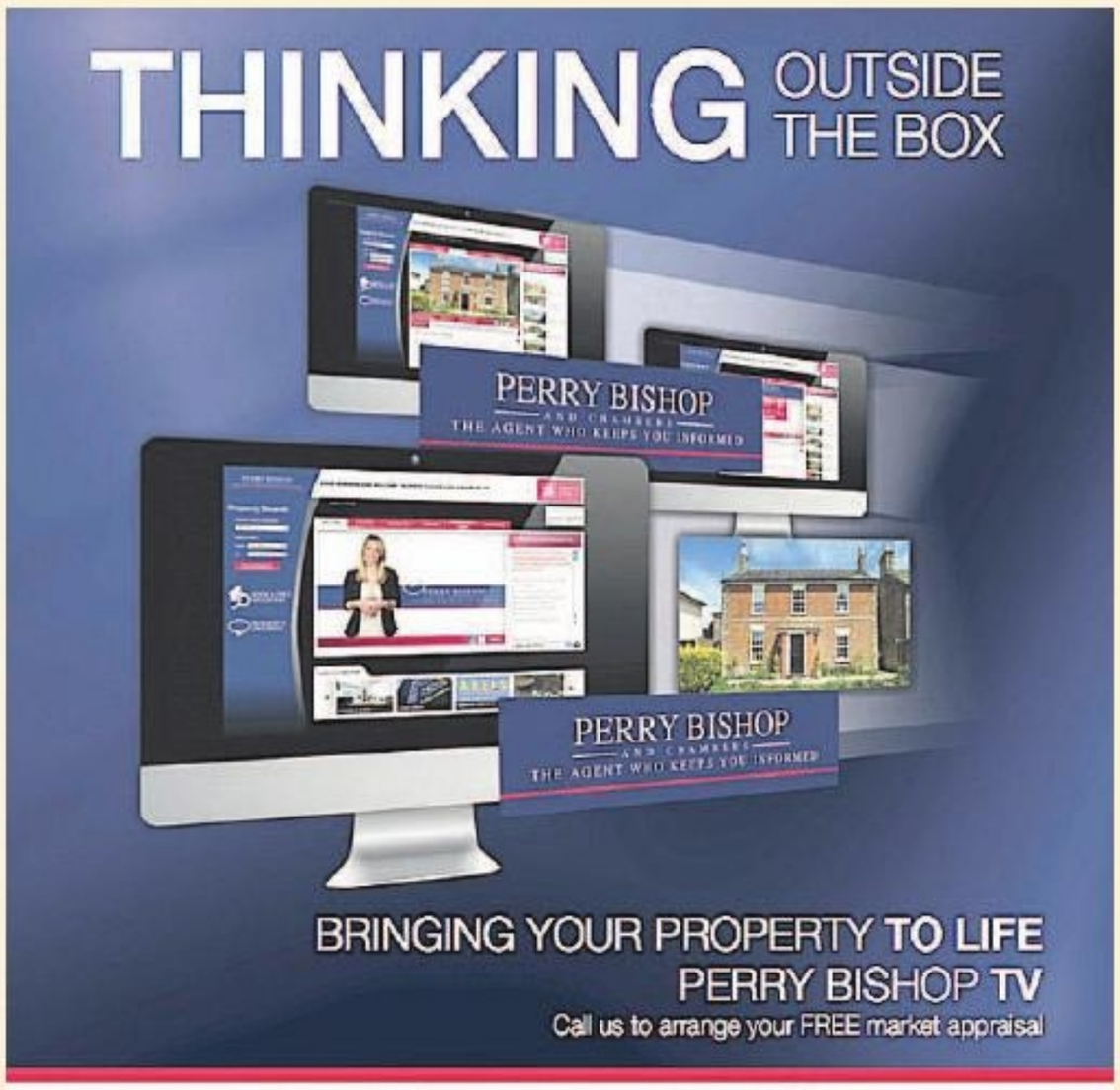
A unique period conversion which is now a charming 2 bedroom home tucked away in a quiet spot in the heart of Faringdon. 2 receptions, fitted kitchen, bathroom and a small patio garden. Investment opportunity with good rental return. End of chain. EPC: E

Asking Price Of £167,500 **01367 240356**

Woolstone

Private village home with single storey living and views over an orchard to paddocks beyond. Four double bedrooms, two bathrooms, two reception rooms, conservatory, kitchen/breakfast room and utility. A two minute walk from an excellent village pub! EPC: F

Offers In Excess Of £500,000 **01367 240356**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Highworth

Bed and Breakfast business opportunity. Period town house in the centre of this market town with a separate cottage which could be used as a work from home office or annexe for teenagers. Pretty paved garden and separate double garage. EPC: E & F

Guide Price £499,000 **01367 240356**

Faringdon

Only 1 plot remaining! A stunning new development of four bedroom detached family homes, offering three reception rooms, three bath/shower rooms and a double garage. Ready to move into and part exchange considered subject to conditions. EPC: C

Offers In Excess Of £450,000 **01367 240356**

Littleworth

Treetops has far reaching views over the valley below and a quiet position on the edge of the village. With c 2163 sq ft of accommodation this detached home offers flexibility, 5 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms and 3/4 bath/shower rooms. Double garage. EPC: D

Guide Price £599,950 **01367 240356**

Faringdon

A detached cottage with large garden, double garage/outbuilding and further outbuilding with planning permission for a one bedroom annexe. Semi rural location adjacent to the A420. 4 bedrooms, 2 bath/shower rooms, 4 receptions and a large refitted kitchen/dining room. EPC: E

£450,000 **01367 240356**

Faringdon

History, bags of character and flexible accommodation, all located right in the heart of a market town. A substantial home with parking and useful income from a retail shop unit. Four/five bedrooms, three reception rooms and cellar. EPC: F

Asking Price Of £499,950 **01367 240356**

Bishopstone

A rare and exciting opportunity to purchase a converted watermill, which offers flexible accommodation arranged over 4 floors with potential for the addition of an annexe on the lower ground floor. Superbly situated in the heart of the village. EPC: E

Asking Price Of £695,000 **01367 240356**

Highworth

Truly stunning period home forming the major part of an elegant Grade II Listed building, situated close to the centre of Highworth. The accommodation is arranged over 3 floors and offers 6 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms, out buildings and ample parking. EPC: F

Asking Price Of £700,000 **01367 240356**

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Puzzles

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Sudoku

Place a number from 1 to 9 in each empty cell so that each 3x3 block, column, and full row includes each of the numbers from 1 to 9 only once. **EASY/MEDIUM/HARD**

4	6	2	1					
		3			4	7		8
5				9	2		4	
		4		1			8	2
		6	9		3	5		
1	9			4		6		
	2		6	3				9
7		1	8			2		
					7	8	5	1

9		7				2		5
	8						6	
	3		9		7		8	
		6		4		1		
	2		5		6		4	
		8		2		5		
	1		3		9		7	
	5						1	
6		4				3		9

7				1				
2		8						
5	1				3			
		3	2			6	7	
	9		5		4		8	
	7	1			8	5		
			4				5	6
						9		8
				6				2

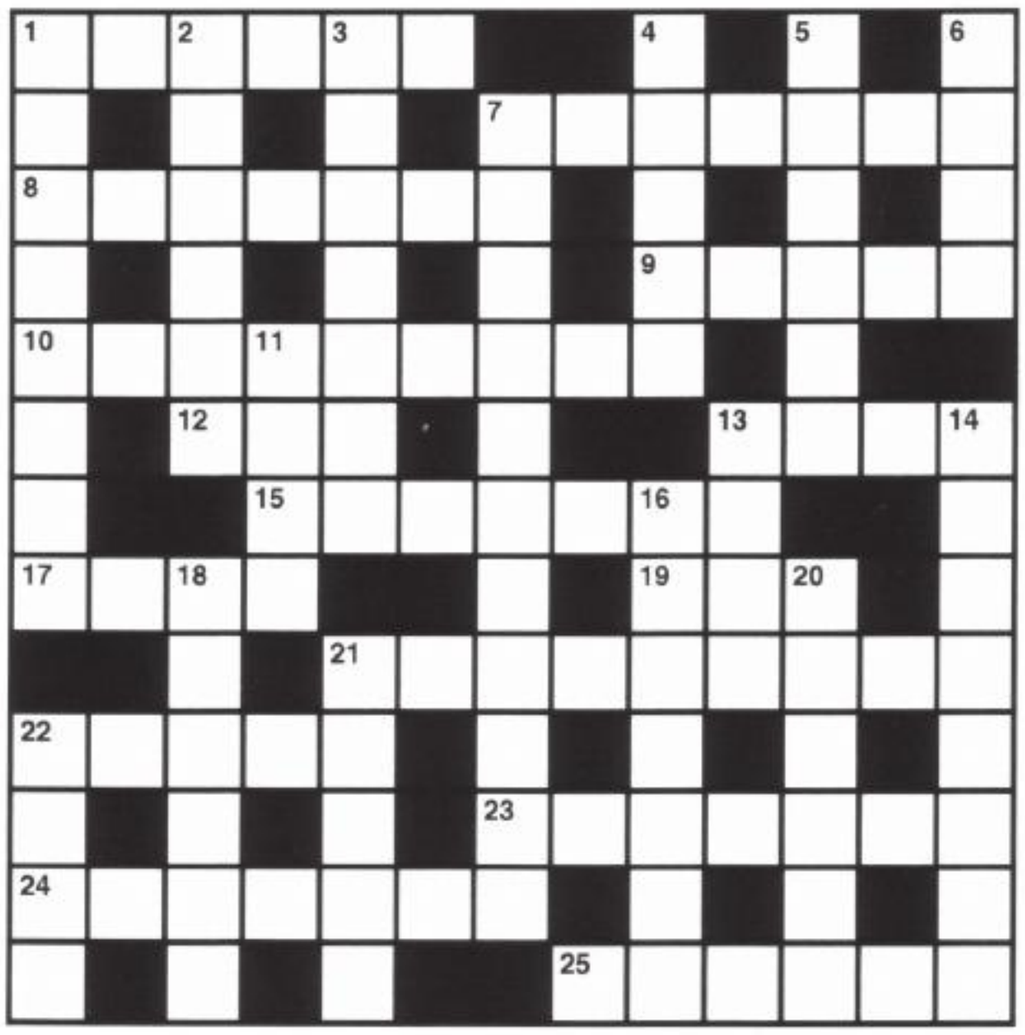
Two speed crossword

Quick Clues Across
1 Handcart (6)
7 Bitter repentance (7)
8 Hug (7)
9 Female relative (5)
10 Twisted (9)
12 Coal distillate (3)
13 Groups (4)
15 A chemical element (7)
17 Maiden (4)
19 Wholly (3)
21 Meddle (9)
22 Dislikes (5)
23 Lewd (7)
24 Sure (7)
25 Happily (6)

Quick Clues Down
1 Producing young (8)
2 Strong (6)
3 Speakers (7)
4 Correct (5)
5 Chill (6)
6 No more than (4)
7 Reparation (11)
11 Appendage (4)
13 Identity (4)
14 Strictly (8)
16 Sunshade (7)
18 Sharp reply (6)
20 Myth (6)
21 Moslem religion (5)
22 Wine (4)

Cryptic Clues Across
1 Shown compassion and heard to be scarred (6)
7 The supporters don't come forward (7)
8 Narcotic effect of Southernwood? (7)
9 Strict US soldier gets cut free (5)
10 Arrogant little devil will hesitate to take on debts (9)
12 Lose strength as 17 does endlessly (3)
13 Somehow robs the globes (4)
15 Thus putting to a purpose a thorough drenching (7)
17 Wise man in the garden (4)
19 It's taken from mine (3)
21 Craft intended, we hear, to go south for consignments (9)
22 They always wear wool next to the skin (5)
23 Steals a little sleep? (7)
24 Minus? (7)
25 Climbs the ranges (6)

Cryptic Clues Down
1 Time to go out for recreation (8)
2 They are tricky to play (6)
3 Set me up at the bar and try prohibition (7)
4 They are over wound (5)
5 One without a proverbial choice (6)
6 Employed in the house decorating trade (4)
7 Very useful for a spell of air travel (11)
11 The rest (of the letters by the sound of it) (4)
13 Man eating monster might well gore you (4)
14 Lives for the bus returning to my young sister up the road (8)
16 Wandering Dominican doesn't get in (7)
18 They are for putting balls on (6)
20 Necessitate coming in late (6)
21 Light fall? (5)
22 Bright boys presumably (4)



Scribble space

Last week's solutions

1	9	6	3	7	4	5	8	2
3	2	5	8	1	6	9	7	4
7	8	4	2	9	5	6	3	1
5	4	7	9	6	2	3	1	8
6	1	2	5	8	3	7	4	9
8	3	9	7	4	1	2	6	5
9	5	1	4	3	7	8	2	6
2	6	3	1	5	8	4	9	7
4	7	8	6	2	9	1	5	3

4	2	7	5	3	9	1	6	8
1	8	9	2	6	4	7	3	5
6	3	5	8	7	1	4	2	9
7	1	8	6	9	5	3	4	2
2	5	3	1	4	8	9	7	6
9	4	6	7	2	3	8	5	1
8	7	1	4	5	6	2	9	3
5	9	2	3	1	7	6	8	4
3	6	4	9	8	2	5	1	7

5	3	7	6	2	8	1	4	9
6	9	1	4	7	3	2	8	5
8	4	2	9	5	1	7	6	3
7	8	3	1	4	2	9	5	6
1	5	9	7	8	6	4	3	2
4	2	6	5	3	9	8	1	7
3	6	8	2	9	4	5	7	1
2	7	4	3	1	5	6	9	8
9	1	5	8	6	7	3	2	4

Quick Crossword
Across: 4 Spiced 8 Employs 10 Thought 11 Steep 12 Enter 13 Strangers 16 Abstinent 19 Trust 20 Nasty 22 Reasons 23 Holiest 24 Dressy
Down: 1 Beasts 2 Apse 3 Compensations 5 Processionals 6 Cogitate 7 Deters 9 Style 14 Regulate 15 Stared 17 Smash 18 Trysts 21 Seed

Cryptic Crossword
Across: 4 Purred 8 Engross 10 Princes 11 These 12 Tides 13 Clearance 16 Outweighs 19 Depot 20 Taken 22 Crayons 23 Tangent 24 Sateen
Down: 1 Septic 2 Ogle 3 To be or not to be 5 Uninteresting 6 Receding 7 Disuse 9 Spain 14 Elephant 15 Edicts 17 Trust 18 Sanity 21 Knee

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AUTOWEEKLY

Perfect family workhorse

REVIEW: VOLVO XC60

By **Philip Shoulder**

@writeonmotoring

VOLVO made quite an impression when it launched the XC60.

Possessing considerably sharper looks than its bigger XC90 brother, this compact SUV has been designed primarily for on-road, rather than off-road use. The 2013 model has a more dynamic look featuring LED rear lights and upmarket feel in the cabin, although the mechanicals have remained unchanged.

Once inside you're greeted to a stylish, modern and spacious cabin, showcased by Volvo's visually appealing floating centre console and Sensus infotainment system. Some of the sat-nav directions lacked clarity and the input method isn't as intuitive as touch-screen alternatives. What does impress is the car's PremiumSound audio system. On the practicality front the XC60 scores well, with a generous 495 litre boot capacity. Rear accommodation is commodious, too, with only very tall passengers likely to be short on headroom.

The XC60 has a commanding and comfortable driving position and you feel very safe and secure once aboard. There are lots of electronic safety systems, from simple seatbelt reminders to other more advanced warning intervention alerts, including Lane Assist, Bliss (Blind Spot Warning System). New optional safety equipment includes Road Sign Information, Active High Beam and Tunnel Detection.

XC60 is offered with a selection of diesel engines, which all emit 139g/km of CO2, regardless of power output.

Fitted with the 163 bhp 2.0 litre 5-cylinder diesel engine affords the Swedish compact SUV with adequately strong performance. The motor's relaxed and smooth power delivery makes for easy cruising. It also has an interesting offbeat sound – particularly when extended, but can become a bit rattly at lower speeds.

Without doubt, the XC60s biggest overall strength is the way it cossets its occupants. From the big comfy leather seats to the impressive suppression of wind, road and suspension noise. Which is perhaps just as well, because the slightly numb steering and the car's overall heft, prevents it from offering much engagement for the keener driver, although never feeling unwieldy. The adaptive suspension also has the ability to firm-up the tension of the dampers, but it does so at the expense of ride comfort.

Verdict:

The XC60's breadth of talents has always made it the perfect family workhorse and long distance cruiser. 2013 revisions have now freshened up the appeal of Volvo's compact SUV.

• *The new Volvo XC60*

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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the all-new Mazda3 range: Urban 37.7 (7.5) - 60.1 (4.7). Extra Urban 58.9 (4.8) - 80.7 (3.5). Combined 48.7 (5.8) - 72.4 (3.9). CO_2 emissions (g/km) 135 – 104.

[9]Test drives subject to applicant status and avilability. The MPG figures quoted are sourced from official EU-regulated test results obtained through laboratory testing. These are provided for comparability purposes only and may not reflect your actual driving results.

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Fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the range of Kia models shown are: Urban 33.6 (8.4) – 80.7 (3.5), Extra Urban 53.3 (5.3) – 94.2 (3.0), Combined 44.1 (6.4) – 88.3 (3.2). CO2 emissions are 150 – 85g/km.

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VALLEY SHOWDOWN AWAITS FOR OXFORD

Wilder's men battle back in Wales

GOALS from James Constable and Ryan Williams booked Oxford United's place in the third round of the FA Cup as they saw off Conference side Wrexham 2-1 on Monday evening.

By **Jack Johnson**
jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

United's reward is a third round tie at Championship strugglers Charlton Athletic, which will be played over the weekend of January 4 and 5.

Chris Wilder's side have already played at The Valley this season where they suffered a 4-0 defeat in the first round of the Capital One Cup on August 6.

However, a lot has changed since the sides met three months ago as United sit top of League Two and The Addicks are struggling in 21st in the Championship.

United's first round replay win over Gateshead last Thursday and second round triumph over the Dragons earlier this week further highlighted the team spirit at the club.

Despite the speculation surrounding Wilder and the vacant manager's job at Portsmouth along with the absence of the injured Michael Raynes and Johnny Mullins, United battled to a 1-0 victory in arctic conditions against the Heed.

Full-backs Matt Bevans and David Lynn made their debuts, while David Hunt and Tom Newey moved into the centre of defence.

A defensive and determined performance saw them nick a 1-0 win in extra-time as Deane Smalley netted a 116th minute penalty for his seventh goal of the season.

At Wrexham it was a far more convincing performance.

There was no doubt over Wilder's future as former Crawley Town boss Richie Barker had been confirmed as the new Pompey manager earlier in the day while Danny Rose and Dave Kitson started the game despite being forced off against Gateshead through injury.

Mullins returned to the starting line-up with Bevans keeping his place at right-back but it was the Conference side that opened the scoring.

Dean Keates was allowed time to pick out Joe Clarke on the edge of the box and the Wrexham midfielder volleyed the Dragons ahead on 29 minutes.

Wrexham should have doubled their lead just after half-time but Ryan Clarke made an outstanding save to deny Johnny Hunt.

However, United's equaliser came on 54 minutes as Kitson found Constable in space on the edge of the area and the striker fired a brilliant shot into the bottom corner.

United were ahead just two minutes later as Wrexham allowed Scott Davies' long throw to bounce in the box and Williams snuck in to head past Andy Coughlin.

It was relatively comfortable from then on for Oxford but Clarke was forced into a brilliant save to deny Rob Ogleby in the last minute.

Wilder's men are back in league action this weekend as they welcome ninth-placed Dagenham & Redbridge to the Kassam Stadium.

• *Ryan Williams caused all sorts of problems during Oxford United's 2-1 FA Cup win over Wrexham (Picture by Steve Daniels)*

Wrexham	**1**
Oxford United	**2**

Welsh back to winning ways

LONDON Welsh romped to victory over Edinburgh Academical in the B&I Cup, running in ten tries in a 73-10 win.

Head coach Justin Burnell made 15 changes from the side that suffered Welsh's first Championship defeat of the season at Bedford Blues the previous week.

And the replacements certainly made an impact.

Will Carrick-Smith (2), Richard Thorpe (2), Alan Awcock, Dante Mama, James Lewis, Joe Ajuwa, Ben West and Mike Denbee all went over while fly half Will Robinson contributed 23 points.

Burnell said: "Those boys weren't out there to make up the numbers - they were out there to prove that they want to play against London Scottish [on December 21 in the Championship], and some of them certainly did that."

Welsh travel up to Scotland this weekend for the away leg against Edinburgh Academical in the B&I Cup.

Scott the hero for City in Workington stalemate

GOALKEEPER Mark Scott was the hero for Oxford City on Tuesday evening as he saved two penalties in a 1-1 draw at home to Workington.

City are now unbeaten in three games in the Skrill North and are up to 16th in the table.

The draw followed back-to-back wins over Vauxhall Motors and Worcester City, helping Mike Ford's men to their best run of form this season.

On Tuesday, Workington started the better and were awarded a penalty after Josef Jackson was fouled by Adam Learoyd but Scott denied the striker.

On 50 minutes City took the lead through Learoyd but Benjamin McKenna equalised shortly afterwards.

Workington went in search of a winner and were awarded a penalty but Scott was again the hero, this time saving from Ross Wilson.

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